

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a modified annexin having an N-terminal chelation site, ~~wherein the chelation site comprises an amino acid extension, the amino acid extension comprising a glycine and a cysteine residue~~ comprising an amino acid sequence  $X_1$ -Gly- $X_2$ , wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are selected from Gly and Cys, and wherein at least one of  $X_1$  or  $X_2$  is Cys.

22. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

23. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

24. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

25. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

26. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

27. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5.

28. (Original) A replicable expression vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a modified annexin having an N-terminal chelation site comprising an amino acid sequence  $X_1$ -Gly- $X_2$ , wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are selected from Gly and Cys, and wherein at least one of  $X_1$  or  $X_2$  is Cys.

29. (Original) A replication expression vector of Claim 28 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

30. (Original) A replication expression vector of Claim 28 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

31. (Original) A replication expression vector of Claim 28 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a modified annexin having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

32. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of Claim 28.

33. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of Claim 29.

34. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of Claim 30.

35. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of Claim 31.

36-62. (Canceled)